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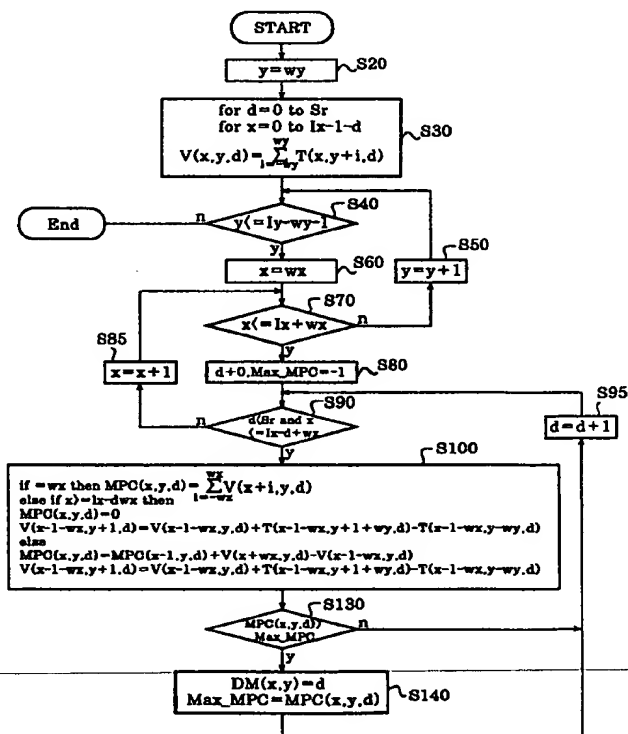
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : G06T 17/00, H04N 13/00		A3	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/53681
			(43) International Publication Date: 21 October 1999 (21.10.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/KR99/00174		(81) Designated States: AL, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CU, CZ, EE, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KP, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, SL, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 13 April 1999 (13.04.99)		Published With international search report.	
(30) Priority Data: 1998/13970 13 April 1998 (13.04.98) KR		(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 12 October 2000 (12.10.00)	
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MEASURING SIMILARITY USING MATCHING PIXEL COUNT

(57) Abstract

A stereo disparity between a reference image and a search image for a reference pixel in the reference image is determined by (a) calculating a similarity measure between a reference window including a set of pixels centering on the reference pixel and each of a group of search windows in the search image which is of a same shape with the reference window and displaced from the reference window within a predetermined search range, wherein a matching pixel count, which is the number of pixels in the reference window which are similar in intensity to corresponding pixels in a search window, is used as the similarity measure between the reference window and the search window; and (b) determining a displacement between the reference window and a search window which yields a largest similarity measure as the stereo disparity for the reference pixel.



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